REMARKS

Claims 1-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tracy et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,979,757). In response, independent claims 1, 10, 12 and 14 have been amended to more particularly claim the invention. Claims 11, 13 and 18 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1-10, 12 and 14-17 are pending.

On the merits, applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims, as amended, are patentable for at least the following reasons.

35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Amended independent claim 1 is directed to a wireless remote terminal apparatus comprising an RFID reader capable of reading information from an RFID tag on a product; a communication unit capable of communicating information to one or more service nodes; and a controller, coupled the RFID reader, the communication unit, arranged to (1) receive information from the RFID reader, (2) allow a user to adjust the received information, (3) send a request, using the adjusted information, to one or more of the service nodes through the communication unit, (3) receive an information response from the service node, and (4) display the information response, wherein the request and the response are formatted as documents capable of being exchanged in a distributed, decentralized environment.

Tracy, as read by the applicants, relates to method for presenting item information using a portable data terminal.

Applicants can find nothing in Tracy that teaches a communication unit, arranged to (1) receive information from the RFID reader, (2) allow a user to adjust the received

information, (3) send a request, using the adjusted information, to one or more of the service nodes through the communication unit, as recited in amended independent claim 1. Amended independent claims 12 and 14 recite similar limitations.

The Office Action indicates that Tracy teaches these combined limitations on col. 8, line 54+. Applicants respectfully disagree. On col. 8, line 54+, Tracy teaches if a good cannot be scanned a manned checkout station may be used and that a customer's profile may be updated, and that "in the context of the present invention, these interactive multi-media devices are employed to provide selective and broadcast data to consumers using the system." Although, a user may be selected to receive particular data (for example, based on a user profile, see col. 9, lines 6-18), or select particular types of information to receive (see col. 9, line 55 through col. 10, line 8, there is no teaching or suggestion that scanned RFID information is adjusted by the user to formulate an information request.

It is well settled that a reference that does not teach, show or suggest all of the features of a claimed invention cannot anticipate that invention. Since Tracy does not teach, show or suggest all of the features of amended independent claims 1, 12 and 14, as recited above, applicant respectfully submit that these claims are patentable over Tracy.

Claims 2-10 and 15-17 in this application are each dependent from one or the other of independent claims discussed above and are, therefore, believed allowable and patentable for at least the same reasons.

Conclusion

The applicants have made a sincere attempt to advance the prosecution of this application by reducing the issues for consideration and specifically delineating the zone

of patentablity. The applicants submit that the claims, as they now stand, fully satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 102. In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKING TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 11, 13 and 18 without prejudice amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A wireless remote terminal apparatus comprising:

an ~~label~~ RFID reader capable of reading information from an RFID tag on a product ~~label~~;

a communication unit capable of communicating information to one or more service nodes; and

a controller, coupled the ~~label~~ RFID reader, the communication unit, arranged to (1) receive information from the ~~label~~ RFID reader, (2) allow a user to adjust the received information, (3) send a request, using the adjusted information, to one or more of the service nodes through the communication unit, (3) receive an information response from the service node, and (4) display the information response,

wherein the request and the response are formatted as documents capable of being exchanged in a distributed, decentralized environment.

10. (Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the controller further is operable to allow a user to ~~adjust the read information from a label and re-send~~ing a request to one or more of the service nodes, in response to the information response.

12. (Amended) A wireless remote terminal apparatus comprising:

a memory; and

———a processor coupled to the memory and operative to read RFID information from a tag, allow a user to adjust the RFID information, communicate the adjusted information to an service node, receive a response from the service node, and responsive to the received response, to allow profile information to be accessed by a service node to engage into a commercial transaction, and where the request and the response are formatted as documents capable of being exchanged in a distributed, decentralized environment.

14. (Amended) A method for allowing a remote user to receive assistance in determining whether to complete an on-site or an on-line commercial transaction, the method comprising the steps of:

reading RFID information from a label of a product, the product located at a retailer location, using a remote terminal;

adjusting the RFID information using the remote terminal;

communicating the adjusted information to one or more service nodes using the remote terminal;

performing an information search relating to the product, at the service node using the adjusted information; and

transmitting an information response to the wireless remote terminal.